

ular associations and conventions, from fairs and celebrations, and from festivities of all kinds. For in none of these things is the wisdom of God to be found.'

forwarded to their several places of destination, to wit:

10. *To the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Ohio:* This meeting is impressed with the conviction, that the statutes which make distinc-

our tenderest sympathies flow out in currents of fraternal yearning. Ye desponding and stricken ones, who feel stripped and sorrowful : a number who have occupied your position have been with us on this oc-

churches bear a united, practical, and faithful testimony against all sin, doing it from a principle of faith and love, then let Zion lift up her head, 'for the time to favor her, yea, the set time will have come.'

which he has so long been unfrained. We most fervently, that the scenes of St. Domingo may never be enacted among our kindred and friends, now dwelling in the dark land of slavery.

the House of Representatives passed a bill, declaring the 'Black Laws' (so called) of that State unconstitutional, and repealing them by a vote of 52 to 11. If the Senate does not arrest the bill, these odious enactments will be erased from the statute book, and Ohio redeemed.

SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE MASSACHUSETTS ANTI-SLAVERY
SOCIETY.

The Annual Meeting of the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society was held in Faneuil Hall, Boston, on Wednesday, Jan. 24.

The chair was taken by FRANCIS JACKSON, President of the Society, at 11 o'clock, A. M., who called the meeting to order, and gave opportunity for vocal or silent prayer.

Voted, That SAMUEL MAY, JR., CORNELIUS BRAMM, and ELIZA J. KENNY, be Assistant Secretaries during the meeting.

Voted, on motion of Wendell Phillips, That the President nominate a Business Committee of seven persons. The following persons were nominated, and accepted by the Society, as that Committee:—

Wm. Lloyd Garrison, Edmund Quincy, Wendell Phillips, Charles K. Whipple, Anne W. Weston, Stephen S. Foster, James N. Buffum.

The following persons, on motion of S. May, Jr., were nominated and chosen a committee to report a list of officers of the Society for the year ensuing:—

Samuel May, Jr., Bourne Spooner, Oliver Johnson, John M. Fisk, John Bailey, Abby K. Foster, and Edmund Quincy.

Voted, That a committee of four on the Roll and Finance be nominated by the Chair. The following were nominated and chosen:—

James N. Buffum, Samuel Brooke, Joshua T. Everett, Lewis Ford.

Samuel Phillips, Treasurer, presented his Annual Report, duly audited. The Report was accepted. It appeared that the receipts of the Society, during the year, amounted to \$3,331.85; its expenditures to \$3,277.09; leaving a balance in the treasury, Jan. 1, 1840, of \$54.76.

Voted, on motion of Wendell Phillips, That we now hear the Annual Report of the Board of Managers, or such portions thereof as the Corresponding Secretary shall select.

Mr. Quincy then read selections from the Report. Notice was given that the Report had been printed, and would be ready for delivery to members and others to-morrow.

Wendell Phillips, from the Committee on Business, reported the following resolutions:—

1. Resolved, That while we look upon the Free Soil movement as the unavoidable result of our principles and agitation, and hail it so far as its formation gives proof of the wider spread of a degree of anti-slavery feeling in the community, we feel called upon to warn the old friends of our cause, the veterans of so long and fierce a struggle, not to expect too much from the first groupings of a community which, as yet, see men but as trees walking; and that we are not to sink the experience of half a century, to suit the views, or wait the infant movements of those who have just awakened to our enterprise; that the maintaining of our advanced position is the only security we have, that they will persevere in their short measure—the only sheet anchor when this experiment necessary for their education has failed, as in its present form it must—the corps of reserve by which alone their broken ranks and disheartened courage are to be secured, and the labors of so many years saved, when this transition period is passed.

2. Resolved, That as the success of the Slave Power, in usurping the control of our government, has been owing to its being made the paramount object of a large class in the community, and especially in the slave States, no effectual resistance can be made to such a conspiracy, but by a party prepared to make resistance to the Slave Power the exclusive and paramount object of its existence; and hence we view with alarm and deep regret the course of the Free Soil party in putting in nomination, in some cases, men who were not prepared to pledge themselves to the support of even their platform of principles, deeming such a course treason to the hopes, and deserving to forfeit the trust of the anti-slavery public.

3. Resolved, That we cannot look upon the Free Soil party as an anti-slavery party, in any proper sense of the term, as no effectual resistance can be made to the Slave Power, except by a party prepared and pledged to trample under foot the compromises of the Constitution; and we look upon any success attending the efforts of the Free Soil movement, as due only to the fear entertained by the South, that their candidates will in reality be false to their oaths of office, and ready to make every use, covertly, of that anti-slavery sentiment in the community which far outruns its platform, and has long ago snapped asunder the bonds of the Union.

4. Resolved, That the church which is in religious fellowship with slaveholders, or the members of which are in political alliance with slaveholders,—or which cherishes and exemplifies the spirit of complacency, or which does not make the immediate abolition of slavery its special concern,—is not worthy to be recognized as a church of Christ, has no claim upon human sympathy or respect, and ought to be abandoned by every one as radically defective in Christian principle and character; and whoever continues in willing connection and conformity with such a church, is to be regarded as an actual supporter of slavery.

Voted, on motion of Oliver Johnson, to adjourn to 2 1/2 o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

Society met according to adjournment, the President in the chair.

The resolutions reported in the morning were again read, and on motion of S. May, Jr., the first three resolutions, relating to the Free Soil party, were taken up for consideration.

Stephen S. Foster, of Worcester, objected to the resolutions, that they admitted too much in behalf of the Free Soil party, and would tend to reconcile the members of that party to their present position.

James N. Buffum, of Lynn, moved that all persons present, whether friendly to this Society and its principles or not, whether anti-slavery or pro-slavery, be invited to take part in the discussions of this meeting. Adopted, unanimously.

Stephen S. Foster moved to re-commit the resolutions on the Free Soil party, which was seconded.

E. Quincy opposed the re-commitment.

Leave being granted, the following resolution was offered and adopted:—

Resolved, That every friend of the anti-slavery cause, present at our meetings, be invited to enrol his or her name as a member of this body, and also to give one dollar, or such other sum as is thought proper, towards defraying the expenses of this annual meeting.

S. S. Foster withdrew his motion to re-commit, and moved to amend the first resolution by substituting as follows:—

Resolved, That we hail with joy the breaking up of the two great political parties of the country, as conclusive evidence of the progress of anti-slavery sentiments, even though their sundry fragments may have been re-united on ground scarcely less pro-slavery than that of the parties from which they have been torn.

Lewis Hayden spoke in opposition to the substitution.

The discussion was continued by Wendell Phillips and Abby K. Foster.

At 6 1/2 o'clock, adjourned to 7 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY—EVENING SESSION.

The Society re-assembled according to adjournment; Edmund Quincy of Dedham in the chair,—who read the resolutions before the meeting.

James N. Buffum moved to lay the resolutions on the table, that an opportunity might be afforded to introduce to the audience two recent fugitives from slavery in Georgia, which motion was carried.

William W. Brown then gave a brief sketch of the

interesting and remarkable escape from slavery of William and Ellen Craft. He read an extract from a New Jersey paper, a correspondent of which had observed this fugitive couple on board of one of the steamboats, and had been struck by something unusual in their appearance. They are quite young; Ellen, a wife, is so nearly white that, by clothing herself in male attire, she was enabled to pass for a white man, while her husband attended her as her servant.

In this way, they took the principal travelled route, and came to Philadelphia in four days, where they met with many who rejoiced with them in their hard-earned but completely successful undertaking. The husband was a journeyman cabinet-maker, and by industry and prudence had been able to lay by a sum sufficient to pay the expenses of their flight; this, besides paying \$250 annually to his master, and the cost of his own support. Those fugitives, whose appearance is such as warmly to prepossess every spectator in their behalf, were then invited to the platform, and introduced to the audience. They were received with cheers, and expressions of great interest on the part of the audience. Mr. Brown said he wished to lay three propositions before the audience, that they might be answered in hearing of these fugitives.

First. All present who will help return a slave to his bondage, will please to say Yes. None replied.

Second. All who would stand still, and do nothing, for or against him, will please to say Yes. None replied.

Third. All who would aid in protecting, rescuing and saving him from slavery, will say Yes. An immense and prolonged assent, reminding one of the "everlasting Yes," came up from the meeting.

William W. Brown, himself a fugitive, then sang an anti-slavery song, which was much applauded.

Henry C. Wright moved to take up the resolutions on the Free Soil party. This was carried, and Mr. W. addressed the meeting in their support, showing the pro-slavery character of the Constitution, and that the Free Soil party goes for maintaining the compromises with slavery. He showed the inconsistency of those who had just responded so enthusiastically to W. W. Brown's question, that they would protect and rescue the fugitive slave, while they supported a Constitution which bound them to deliver up the fugitive.

Several gentlemen of the Free Soil party, who were present, were here called upon to speak, but did not.

The discussion was continued by S. S. Foster, W. Phillips, and W. L. Garrison, the first in support of his amendment, the last two in support of the resolutions.

On motion of H. C. Wright, adjourned to Thursday, 10 o'clock, A. M.

THURSDAY—MORNING SESSION.

Jan. 25. The Society re-assembled in Faneuil Hall, according to adjournment. FRANCIS JACKSON in the chair.

The resolutions on the Free Soil movement again came up. Mrs. Abby K. Foster defended the amendment offered by S. S. Foster. The subject was further discussed by J. T. Everett, Mr. Osgood of Salisbury, (the same who came to our platform last year to defend the Liberty party), William A. White of Watertown, Wm. Lloyd Garrison, and S. S. Foster.

At 1 1/2 o'clock adjourned to 2 1/2 o'clock.

THURSDAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

Met again in Faneuil Hall, Francis Jackson in the chair.

The committee on the nomination of officers reported, by their chairman, a list of persons to act as officers of the Society the ensuing year. Their report was accepted, and the persons therein named were accordingly elected—as follows:—

President—FRANCIS JACKSON, Boston.

Vice Presidents—Andrew Robeson, New Bedford; Edmund Quincy, Dedham; Stillman Lathrop, Cambridge; Amos Farnsworth, Groton; Adin Ballou, Milford; John M. Fisk, West Brookfield; Joshua T. Everett, Princeton; Editham L. Capron, Worcester; William B. Earle, Leicester; Jefferson Church, Springfield; Nathan Webster, Haverhill; George Hoyt, Athol; John C. Gore, Roxbury; Caroline Weston, Weymouth; Zenas Rhodes, New Marlboro'; Benjamin Snow, Fitchburg; George Miles, Westminister; James N. Buffum, Lynn; Cyrus Pierce, Newton; John T. Hilton, Cambridgeport; Thomas T. Stone, Salem; Bourne Spooner, Plymouth; William Asby, Newburyport; John Bailey, Lynn; Charles F. Hovey, Boston.

Corresponding Secretary—Edmund Quincy, Dedham.

Recording Secretary—Robert F. Wallcut, Boston.

Treasurer—Samuel Phillips, Brookline.

Auditor—Edmund Jackson, Boston.

Councillors—William Lloyd Garrison, Maria Weston Chapman, Cornelius Bramhall, Henry I. Bowditch, John M. Spear, James Russell Lowell, Wendell Phillips, John Rogers, Anne Warren Weston, Eliza Lee Follen, Charles K. Whipple, Samuel May, Jr.

The amendment offered by S. S. Foster was rejected. The resolutions numbered 1, 2 and 3 were then adopted.

Voted, To take up the resolution on the church.

Nahum Osgood spoke in opposition to the resolution, and in favor of union with the American church.

James N. Buffum replied, and vindicated the soundness and necessity of the resolution.

Henry C. Wright spoke on the same side, and declared himself opposed to every thing which went for the enslavement of man, whether governments, or churches, or Bibles, or the gods of this nation.

Wendell Phillips moved that the resolution be laid on the table, to take up the subject of funds for the future operations of the Society. This was carried, and Mr. Phillips addressed the friends of the cause in an earnest speech for aid.

Samuel May, Jr., introduced the following resolution, and spoke briefly in its support:—

Resolved, That in prosecuting the work of the redemption of the slave, and in our determination to be deterred from that object by no Constitutions or Party Organizations, or Ecclesiastical Combinations whatever, we summon all the true friends of Freedom and Humanity to come to our aid, and sustain, during the year in which we have entered, that great moral movement which has laid the axe at the root of Slavery's tree, by their most generous contributions and pledges.

The Committee on Finance then and subsequently received pledges, to be paid within the year, amounting to upwards of seven hundred dollars. They also received, in money, donations amounting to about ninety dollars, besides a sum sufficient to defray all expenses of calling and holding the annual meeting.

The resolution on the church was again taken up, and Mr. Garrison made an eloquent exposure of the weak idea which had been advanced that we should go back to the old anti-slavery ground.

Adjourned to 7 o'clock.

THURSDAY—EVENING SESSION.

Met according to adjournment, when the chair was taken by James N. Buffum, a Vice President.

The resolution on the church being before the Society, Edmund Quincy spoke in its support.

Parker Pillsbury followed in justification of the course of the American Anti-Slavery Society and its friends in boldly exposing and rebuking the faithless and pro-slavery course of the American churches. He spoke of the influence of those churches as on the wane.

Wendell Phillips took a different view from Mr. Pillsbury, of the influence of the churches, and commended the energy, perseverance and ability with which they labored for the ends they sought. He acknowledged their bigotry, and condemned their course on the subject of slavery, and would not regard them as the friends of the church.

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